COTTON CHATS

FROM

DRAPER COMPANY

SHIPMAN'S
COMMON-SENSE BINDER

PATENTED

JANUARY 19, 1892. APRIL 19, 1904

To open binder, remove the slides from fasteners raise the fasteners to an erect position and then file papers. For punching: lay the papers on covers and mark sheets to correspond with fasteners.

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ASA L. SHIPMAN'S SONS
MANUFACTURERS,
NEW YORK.

COTTON CHATS
By the secretary of the
DRAPER COMPANY,
HOPEDALE, MASS.

No. 33. NOVEMBER, 1904.

THE 12-LOOM WEAVERS.

The general public does not perhaps appreciate all the reasons for the recent deplorable labor difficulties connected with the cotton manufacturing industry. Those who read the records of discussion at the meetings held by the striking forces, however, can easily determine some of the factors that affect the situation. At a general meeting of weavers in Fall River, early in October, a man who seemed in favor of consideration of the 12-loom system was subjected to all manner of indignities, and it was voted not to go back to work until manufacturers decided to return to the old 8-loom system. The weavers protest against the change from eight to twelve looms, even where warp stop-motions and the long bobbin system are applied, on the ground that their labor is increased without proportionate increase of pay. The work of a weaver is divided into definite operations, which are easily counted to determine the actual facts in the case. In our recent publication, "Labor Saving Looms," we figured that if there were 50% less operations necessary in attention to the filling, by use of the long bobbin system, a weaver could possibly run eleven looms, without increase of effort, if warp stop-motions prevented the danger of pickouts. We also showed, however, in comparison with Northrop looms, figured on the same basis that the same weaver, with the same expenditure of effort, could run thirty looms, as against eleven looms with the warp-stop and long bobbin, and the eight looms as ordinarily used. In this comparison the Northrop loom is supposed to use the short bobbin, although there is no reason whatever why the advantage of the long bobbin should not be given to the Northrop Loom as well.

It seems strange that mills are getting excited at this late day about the possibility of adding three or four looms when the earliest Northrop looms added eight to a weaver's capacity and the present improved model certainly sixteen, or four times as many as the long bobbin warp stop-motion system. It should be remembered that we ourselves first introduced warp stop-motions into cotton manufacturing; in fact, the application of warp stop-motions to any style of weaving was hardly noticeable until we took the matter up. The warp stop-motion, of itself, does not lessen the labor of piecing in warp threads at all, except as it diminishes the number of pickouts. The styles usually applied by our competitors require extra expense in drawing-in. The long bobbin may save a certain number of replenishments, and it may introduce offsetting objections not yet fully appreciated. There may be profit in such an investment; but whatever the profit by a gain of three or four looms, there is a much larger profit by a gain of sixteen. It requires less outlay to change over old looms than to buy Northrop looms. It might also be cheaper for a man to buy shoes and dispense with other clothing. The shoes are good as far as they go, but they hardly go far enough.

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WEAK YARN.

Certain recent experiments in spinning have impressed us more than ever before with the necessity for accurate driving of the bobbin on the spindle in spinning frames. When weak yarn, or slack twisted yarn, is traced to the spinning room, the overseer begins to look for loose bands on the spinning frames, and if the fault cannot be obviated entirely, more twist is put into the yarn. We have preached for years against the error of tight banding on spindles, knowing that the modern spindle, if free in its bearing and properly oiled, will run with a band pull of less than one pound. An excess of twist in the yarn not only affects the appearance of the goods woven, but seriously limits the production of the spinning frame per spindle, for more twist usually signifies less delivery at the rolls, rather than increase in the speed of the spindles.

A fault often remains unnoticed until the remedy presents itself. Badly fitting bobbins, or bobbins used on badly running spindles will rise up out of proper driving contact with the spindle whorl, and when thus out of proper frictional engagement will not revolve as fast as the spindle, and thereby lack the proper turns of twist. The percentage of such bobbins and spindles can easily be enough to require an increase of twist in the whole product to make a proper average. Our new centrifugal bobbin clutch will not only ensure a proper drive of a loosely fitting bobbin on the spindle, but it will also ensure a more positive drive of the bobbin, even if the spindle itself be running badly. We believe that with our centrifugal clutch twist will be much more uniform, and actually allow an increase of product from the spindle, the frame and the entire room, by the taking out of twist and the increase of delivery at the rolls. We suggest experiments in this direction to those who are adopting this new bobbin drive.

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HONORS FROM ST. LOUIS.

We are informed that the Superior Jury of the St. Louis Exposition have awarded us a gold medal for exhibit in Class 136, referring to the housing of the workmen. Visitors to Hopedale have frequently commented on the superior houses furnished by our Company for their help. We believe in making our town as attractive as possible as a matter of good business policy, since we are anxious to retain the services of high class labor.

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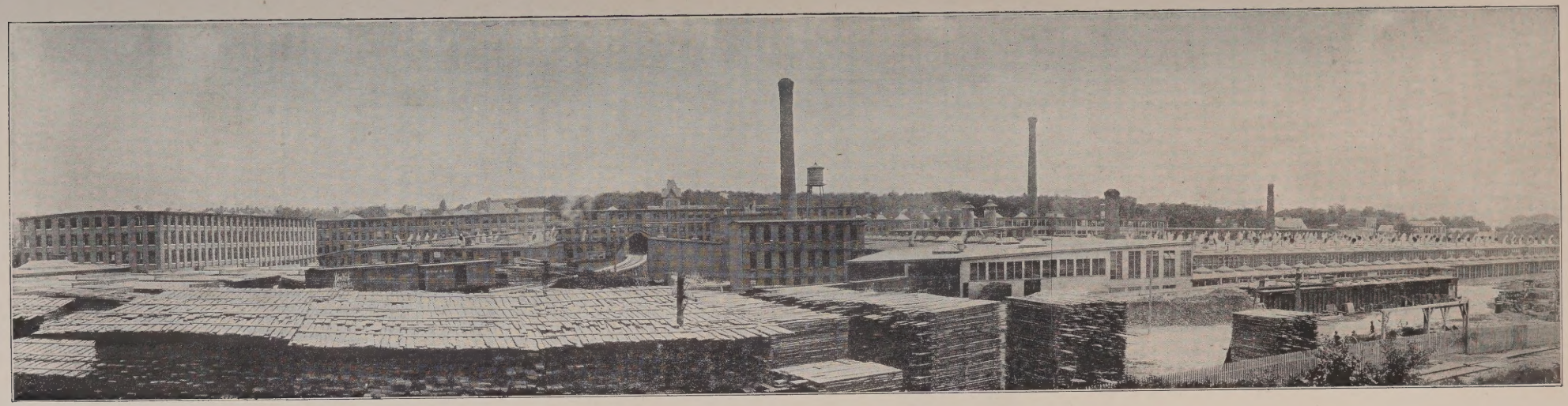

Rear View of Hopedale Works, Showing New Addition to Wood-Working Plant at Left.